Scheme, revamping of National Literacy Mission to enhance its functional effectiveness, vocationalisation of education, Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Community Polytechnics, Development of Centres of Excellence at college and university levels, Autonomous Colleges, Open Learning System through Open Schools/ Open Universities, etc. Besides, Constitution (Ninety-third Amendment) Bill, 2001 aims at making right to free and compulsory education for children from 6-14 years of age as Fundamental Right. All these programmes/initiatives and interventions have resulted in a definite increase in enrolment and expansion of literacy in the country. Further, a number of Committees/Commissions, comprising eminent educationists, have been constituted in different sectors of education. Recommendations of these Committees are generally implemented within the broad framework of the NPE and POA. Efficacy of the implementation and strategies adopted pursuant to the NPE has been reviewed from time to time and appropriate modifications brought out.

Eligibility of N. V. Principals for Promotions

2031. SHRI GAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Vice-Principals of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti have to appear in a written examination and to pass it, to be eligible for promotion to the post of Principals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Vice-Principal candidates are not paid any TA/DA for appearing at the said examination; and

(c) if so, the justification, if any, thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) Since the tour undertaken by the Vice Principals while appearing for the exam to be conducted for the post of Principals is for their personal benefit, it was decided not to allow TA/DA for them for this purpose. However, now it has been decided by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to pay T.A. as per relevant rules.